

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for establishing optical links between optical transceiver nodes in a free space optical communications network comprising:

- 5 providing a map node having a transmitter and a receiver, the map node having a corresponding uncertainty window;
- installing a reflect node;
- installing a retro-reflector on the reflect node;
- 10 directing the map node to scan the uncertainty window by transmitting a transmit beam until the reflection of the transmit beam is received by the receiver of the map node;
- verifying that the signal received by the receiver of the map node is the signal transmitted by the transmitter of the map node;
- 15 directing the reflect node to scan its uncertainty space; and
- determining whether a link has been achieved.